



# Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor  
Marc Miller, Director

January 28, 2010

Kyle Buck  
Wight and Company  
2500 N. Frontage Road  
Darien, IL 60561

RE: Lewis University Science Addition  
IDNR Project #1005326

Dear Sirs:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the Lewis University science building addition in Romeoville. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075. The development will consist of an addition to the science building.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the action is likely to have an adverse impact on the listed species Hine's Emerald Dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*), Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), and spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*).

The project area is an important groundwater recharge area. It is important to minimize surface flow and maximize infiltration. It is also important to keep as much chemical material (road salts, herbicides and fertilizers) from contaminating the water. Any measures you can take to achieve these goals will reduce the impact on the habitat in the area. To minimize these impacts, the Department recommends that Village of Romeoville incorporate the following measure[s] in its project authorization.

- a. Limiting the amount of impervious structures and surfaces.
- b. Roof runoff routed into one or two rain gardens to alleviate surface water and allowing it to infiltrate to increase groundwater recharge for the area.
- c. Planting vegetated filter strips with native vegetation to assist with pollutant adsorption, soil stabilization, and provide some water absorption. Filter strips receive runoff thereby slowing runoff speed, trapping sediment and pollutants, and reducing the rate and volume of storm water runoff from parking lots. Native vegetation is recommended for all areas that will be landscaped, including the

detention basin. See the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service “Illinois Native Plant Guide” and the City of Chicago’s, “A Guide to Storm water Best Management Practices” for assistance. Not only will native landscaping aid in pollutant absorption, but it will stabilize the soil, reduce soil erosion, reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides and will dissuade Canada Geese from congregating near the basins.

d. Silt fences, soil stabilization and runoff control measures should be incorporated throughout the entire construction site and during the entire construction period. These should be inspected on a daily basis to ensure they are working properly.

e. Any detention basins should be re-designed to allow more time for water quality benefits to be maximized: bottom of the basin should not be flat; a beam within the interior portion of the basin that is 1.5 - 2.0 feet high should be incorporated; to lengthen flow path before water is released, inlets and outlets should have the maximum amount of distance between them; and native vegetation should be incorporated in and around the basin in the multiple planting zones.

f. Road salt coming off of tires and vehicles and salt applied directly to the roads are water quality concerns for the detention basin. Non-saline deicers should be investigated as an alternative to standard salt applications since road salt is not well removed in the soil via filter strips.

g. To prevent turtles from entering construction areas, exclusionary fencing should be in place from the end of March and remain until October. Daily inspections should occur for the first two weeks and then be maintained weekly throughout the construction period to ensure the exclusionary fencing has been properly installed (dug into the ground) and to check if any turtles are present. All trenches and excavations should be securely covered at the end of each day’s work. Trenches, excavations, and fencing will need to be inspected each morning by trained personnel, prior to work commencing, to ensure that reptiles and amphibians are not present or trapped.

Consultation on the part of the Department is terminated. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), the Village of Romeoville must notify the Department of its decision regarding these recommendations, whether they will:

- Allow the action to proceed as originally proposed;
- Require the action to be modified per Department recommendations (please specify which measures if not all will be required); or
- Forgo the action.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been

implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Evans".

Tracy Evans  
Division of Ecosystems and Environment  
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